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TRAILING ARBUTUS

Deep in the lonely forest,
High on the mountain side,
Long in the dreary Winter,
Short in the summer-tide,
Just in the breath between them
Pregnant with sun and showers
Starts from the earth primeval
Fairest of northern flowers.

All through the sunny summer
Lavish with wealth of bloom,
She too hath shared life's fullness
Hid in her forest gloom;
Nurtured with dews and sunlight
Richly her buds are fed,
Fresh while the summer fadeth,
Fresh when its flowers are dead.

Then, when the rude winds seek her,
Threaten her buds to blast,
Fiercely assailed by winter,
Fearless she holds them fast;

Fast, till the spring draws nearer,
Fast, till the days grow fair,
Fast, till the April showers
Quicken the chilly air.

Woke by the murmuring breezes,
Kissed by the shining sun,
Up in a burst of transport
Starteth the prisoned one!

Blushing in fairy clusters,
Pressing a mossy bed,
Leaves of autumnal russet
Over her soft couch shed.

Close to the damp earth clinging,
Tender, and pink, and shy;
Lifting her waxen blossoms
Up to the changeful sky

Welcome! our springtide darling,
Fresh in thy virgin hue,
Long as the Oaks stand round thee
Yearly thy charms renew!

Clairie Goodale.

GRATA CAP.



GROWING FLOWERS IN BOXES.



OME flower-loving women are fortunate enough to have homes of their own, with ample grounds and permanent gardens, but a still larger number, like myself, are glad to live in houses belonging to other people, and as we

are never quite sure when the landlord may have "a good chance to sell," or we to get more desirable quarters without a corresponding increase of rent, our flowers like ourselves must be of a sort that can easily adapt themselves to new conditions and surroundings. To be a flower-lover does not insure one's being a successful flower-grower. To be sure there are women who not only inherit a love for flowers just as surely as they do any other distinctive family characteristic, but who have the tact to make every plant and vine develop itself to perfection, even under unfavorable conditions. These are the women who grow specimen plants in old tin cans and teapots, without providing the least drainage, and luxuriant out-of-door flowers under the shade of trees, on high, terraced ground, and in soil that was thrown out when excavating for the cellar. But the most of us have no such magic power, and must learn to grow flowers as we learned to read—by the slow but safe A, B, C methods. We must study each variety as the wise mother studies the personality of each one of her children, that she may adapt her modes of culture to its particular needs.

There are few if any plants that will grow equally well in sun and shade, in an exposed as in a sheltered position, and unless one would invite defeat she must understand this, as well as know what kind of soil and methods of culture are essential to their growth and development.

The farmer's wife who would raise flowers may not be able to secure the co-operation of her husband and sons, or even the help of the "hired man," but she is quite sure to have a choice of favorable situations, with good soil and an unlimited supply of fertilizers to draw upon; but the majority of town flower-growers not only have unfavorable situations, but must provide suitable soil as well as fertilizers.

For the first-mentioned difficulty there is no remedy except in a wise selection of varieties, with little or no regard to favorites, but the others are easily overcome if one has even an apology for a rear yard, for a compost-heap can be made in one corner and by the addition of a little good loam, annually, the best possible soil for growing most varieties of flowers can be obtained. If there are no shade trees on the grounds or street front to furnish leaves, your neighbors probably have some, and for a trifling compensation a workman will collect and pile them in said corner as a foundation. In the same way children, or a servant, will bring in street sweepings, soil that washes into the gutter, lawn grass, etc. Then, too, there is much kitchen waste than can be utilized, as pea-pods, corn husks and other refuse from green vegetables, the rinsings of coffee and tea-pot, burned bones, etc., and by occasionally adding dry

earth from the street and sifting coal ashes over the pile you will not be annoyed by the least odor, and will secure excellent soil.

For the class in question, who, uncertain where their tent is to be pitched another year, potted plants and annuals must be the main dependence. But no matter what the sort, a genuine flower-lover finds little pleasure or satisfaction in growing inferior specimens, or in abandoning the culture of her favorite varieties because of unfavorable situation. Lacking the wisdom or capacity to do the latter, year after year, I have substituted movable wooden boxes for beds, and though I am, not so ignorant or prejudiced as to think them in any respect superior to the latter when favorably situated, they certainly have many advantages over the opposite sort in point of utility, and when painted or stained in some inconspicuous color, as brown or dull dark green, and half hidden under a mass of luxuriant flowers and vines, they are certainly more effective than many beds of more graceful shape and pretentiousness. They can be placed in many situations (as against house walls and under trees) that are favorable as to sun or shade, but where it would be impossible to grow flowers successfully in beds, and for flowers and vines on piazzas and balconies they are far superior to pots.

They are made of inch pine boards, and vary in length from 4 to 8 feet, in width from 12 to 15 inches, and in depth from 15 to 18 inches, or rather I should say that is the depth of the end pieces—for they extend three inches below the box proper—and in the bottom are numerous inch auger holes for drainage. They would, of course, be more durable if zinc lined, but mine, which are kept well painted, both outside and inside, and were painted in the joints when made, and are always emptied and kept in the cellar during the winter, have been in use five years, and are apparently as good as new.

When ready to fill and stock with plants they are placed in position, with a board under each end, if necessary, and about a peck of lump charcoal put in the bottom to insure perfect drainage and prevent the soil from becoming sour. Vines are then planted near the edges and upright-growing plants through the center. All varieties of plants grown in pots and vases, as well as many annuals, are adapted to this purpose. For vines I prefer vinca, German or parlor ivy, Madeira vine, othonna, mesembryanthemum glabrum, convolvulus minor and nasturtiums, and for the center tea and polyantha roses, carnations, heliotropes, fuchsia, feverfew Little Giant, geraniums, lantanas, coleus, begonias, sweet alyssum, petunias, verbenas and Tom Thumb nasturtiums, though of course the list might be extended almost indefinitely.

No vines grow quicker or more luxuriantly, or afford a more effective background for flowering plants than German ivy, Madeira vine and vinca, but their roots reach out so far and require so much nourishment and moisture that they rob other plants unless restrained. The latter I have learned to do most effectually when filling the boxes, viz: have two wide boards as long as the box, place them edgewise in the inside, three inches from each side, and pack the soil close on each side, thus forming a separate compartment for the vines.

Like any bedding out of house-plants, nothing is gained by haste; in fact their growth is

retarded. I generally sow seeds, root cuttings of ivy, othonna, mesembryanthemum, etc., indoors, and send my order for plants to be delivered after May 1st, that I may place them directly in the boxes.

The effectiveness of this method of planting is greatly dependent upon securing a luxuriant growth of vines to droop over the sides of the boxes, and upon a harmonious combination of colors when the other plants are in bloom. Then, too, strong central plants should be surrounded by vines of like nature, and mesembryanthemum glabrum, othonna, Colliseum ivy and the like, should be grown in combination with sweet alyssum, polyantha and tea roses, begonias, etc., etc.

In an exposed situation geraniums are very satisfactory, if harmonious color combinations are secured. No geranium of recent introduction, if indeed any other, is comparable to Souvenir de Mirande for delicacy and beauty of coloring, and I am sure one of my most effective boxes will be the one that is to hold only eight or ten plants of this variety and a snowy white one, surrounded by German ivy.

Nasturtiums and petunias do exceptionally well in sunny positions, and if the blossoms are picked off as soon as they commence to fade (as all others should be), they will be a mass of flowers all summer—the latter even until heavy frosts.

The lateral growth of all vines is hastened by occasionally clipping off the main ends, and by not allowing any buds to open. In exposed situations and during extreme hot, dry weather, the plants should be thoroughly sprinkled every evening.

KATHERINE B. JOHNSON.

CULTURAL NOTES.

FOR SWEET PEAS.

The following are Mr. Eckford's directions for cultivating sweet peas. Our readers will understand that it is necessary to modify them somewhat to conform to our climate or climates in the different portions of this country. If these directions are compared with those of Mr. Hutchins in this number, and varied accordingly, the main features of sweet pea growing will be well understood.

Preparing the Ground. If not already tolerably rich, a liberal dressing of thoroughly decomposed stable manure should be dug in, some time before the ground is wanted, leaving it rough, what gardeners call rough-digging and allowed to consolidate before sowing.

Preparing for Sowing. All that is necessary is to break the ground thoroughly with the Dutch Hoe, not too fine, draw a drill about three inches deep, sow the seed thinly, and cover with two inches of soil, leaving the drill hollow, gently tread in if the ground be dry, and when the young plants begin to appear, go along the row with one foot on each side, treading and making thoroughly firm for a distance of 18 inches on each side of the row. Sow early in February, for succession again in March, April, and May.

Staking, Mulching, Etc. As soon as the plants are well above ground they should at once be staked. This is a most important operation. Nice twiggy new sticks (if possible) should be secured. I prefer the sticks undressed. The delight and beauty of the sweet pea is to ramble and hang from the points of the twigs, and therefore should be allowed to ramble at will; and what is of the last importance is a mulch of some light material. Should the weather be dry and hot, any refuse, such as well decomposed leaf-mold, spent hops, or horse droppings well broken, will answer this purpose, or all these mixed together would form an excellent dressing, and this to the sweet pea, and, indeed, to everything else, is of infinitely more importance than watering, beneficial as this is in some cases. The stakes should be put in with the crowbar, and made thoroughly firm.

A TEA ROSE BED.



ET me advise any one who is undecided what to have this year, to try tea roses. They are as cheap as geraniums, and while they need more care, are much more satisfactory. My bed has the sun all day, but slopes slightly to the east. This

drains off all extra water, and while roses are great drinkers, they do not want one drop more than they need. The bed is a large circular one and was made up of the soil on the spot, mixed with well rotted cow manure and old rotted sods chopped up. It was spaded up soft to the depth of fifteen inches, for rose roots will run deep if they can. The bed contained about twenty roses. Great attention was paid them, the soil kept stirred up, the rose slug fought with hellebore dissolved in water, and sprayed on both upper and lower sides of the leaves.

When the plants bloomed the roses were cut off with long stems, and as this acted as a pruning, new branches were thrown out, which went to blooming, and the bushes were in bloom all season.

In some localities with snug protection, tea roses will winter out of doors. Where the season is too severe they can be potted for the house or the cellar. When kept for winter blooming they need to be sprinkled every day to prevent red spider.

During the summer an occasional dose of weak manure water is beneficial, and during dry weather the roses should be sprinkled and watered every evening.

Some of the best varieties are Catharine Mermet, Dr. Grill, Etoile de Lyon, Hermosa, Luciole, Marie Van Houtte, Mrs. DeGraw, Papa Gontier, Perle des Jardins, Queen's Scarlet, The Bride, La France, Meteor, Duchess of Albany, Saffrano and dwarf Marechal Niel.

RAY RICHMOND.

CALLIOPSIS.

THE calliopsis of our gardens embraces several species and varieties of hardy native annual plants, being found in immense quantities in various sections of Texas, Nebraska, and Oregon. In their native homes the flowers bear but little resemblance in size and form to those in cultivation at the present day. The plants grow from one to three feet in height, and although they are of a somewhat slender habit yet the growth is vigorous and compact. The flowers, which are of the size and shape of our common field daisy, embrace every shade of yellow, orange and rich reddish brown, varying to red or crimson, some varieties being nicely marked. The flowers, which are produced in the greatest abundance, are borne on slender foot stalks, and are very desirable for cut-flower purposes during the summer, as they remain a long time in perfection after being cut. The calliopsis forms a very attractive object when grown in groups in the mixed border. The period of bloom depends entirely on the season and manner in which the plants are grown.

As the calliopsis is so hardy it is an easy plant to grow, and often little or no care is be-

stowed upon it, and the result is that the flowers are small and quite inferior in size and color. Now this should not be the case. Give the plants an opportunity to properly develop themselves, and see how well they will repay all the care and attention bestowed upon them. The calliopsis does best when grown in a sunny situation and in a deep, moderately enriched soil. The plants should not be crowded together, but be given ample space.

As the calliopsis proves to be so hardy, in most places surviving the winter with slight protection, I consider it desirable, when an early bloom is desired, to sow the seeds early in September on a nicely prepared border, in a

plants afterwards transplanted as they are large enough to handle. Be very careful to give the plants while small an abundance of space in which to properly develop themselves, as this is a most essential point. Or, the seed can be sown early in May where the plants are to bloom, and the seedlings thinned out as soon as they can be handled. This mode of culture will produce the finest flowers, but the plants will be rather late in coming into bloom.

Of the many varieties the following are the most desirable and distinct:

C. coronata. This species is a native of Texas, and in cultivation grows about two feet in height. The flowers are of a large size, of a



CALLIOPSIS.

sheltered situation; sow thinly, cover slightly, and as soon as the plants are well up, thin out, so that they stand four or five inches apart, and as soon as the ground becomes frozen, cover slightly with straw or evergreen branches.

As soon as the weather becomes settled in the spring the covering should be removed and the plants transferred to the place where they are to bloom. Thus treated they will bloom very early in the season, and where a succession of the finest flowers are desired an additional spring sowing will be absolutely necessary. For this purpose the seed should be sown in a cold frame early in April, or on a nicely prepared border early in May, and the

rich yellow color, with a circle of rich crimson spots near the disc.

C. Drummondii is a native of Texas, and in cultivation grows about two feet in height. Plant very bushy and compact in habit. Flowers about two inches across, of a rich golden yellow color, with a small dark center.

C. tinctoria grows about two and a half feet in height. Flowers of a rich brown, margined with golden yellow. Several varieties of this species are usually found in seed catalogues.

C. tinctoria fl. pl. This grows about two feet in height. The flowers are double, of a rich golden yellow, with wine maroon spots. A very desirable variety of recent introduction. *Floral Park, N. Y.* CHAS. E. PARNELL.

MOUSE'S-EAR.

ANTENNARIA PLANTAGINIFOLIA.

Where the hill slopes to the south
See the mouse's ear;
She has felt the odorous mouth
Of sweet April near.
Thick above the winter's drouth
Her gray leaves appear.

Ere the trillium opes her eye,
Or the red puccoon,
To the changing, fickle sky
She hath sung a rune
With her facets lifted high,
Mid her leaves bestrewn.

Modest, tiny, fearless flower,
We thy welcome sing;
Winter doth not make thee cower
With his blustering,
When he hurls his sleety shower
At the face of Spring.

Soon about thee, thick shall blow
Violets soft and fair;
Happy maidens, too, shall go
Gathering bouquets rare;
Nature's waiting heart shall know
Spring fills all the air.

EDWARD B. HEATON, *Six Gables, Iowa.*

THE BUSY WOMAN'S FLOWERS.

IF THERE is one person more than another who, loving flowers, should have them, I think it is the busy housewife. To the woman of leisure they are a luxury and pleasant pastime, but to her who is shut off from nearly all social recreation, they are a real need.

Now our literary friends will tell us that the little leisure at our disposal should be devoted to intellectual culture, which we must admit is excellent advice as a rule, but liable to exceptions. The very name housewife indicates a complexity, superlative in degree if the housewife chances also to be a farmer's wife, and the discharge of her many and varied duties leaves the brain as well as the body tired—often so tired that any mental effort becomes a real pain. Then in preference to light literature, which alone can give her needed rest and relaxation, let her have flowers. Just to sit among and enjoy them, or do some light "fussing" over them, will bring her both.

What to cultivate is chiefly a matter of choice. Window plants are perhaps most easily cared for, though perennials stand pre-eminent as the busy woman's flowers for out-of-door culture. I like perennials, they are such faithful friends, coming up as they do when we are right in the midst of spring sewing or house-cleaning. Once given a place in the garden they are ours indefinitely, without the trouble of seedlings after the first year; even this may be obviated if we can afford to buy the roots. In cold climates it is well to give a dressing of coarse, "strawy" manure in the fall as protection. This may remain during the summer as mulch and to help keep the weeds down. Whatever fertilizing properties it contains will get washed into the soil by the storms and will usually be all that is needed. This is about all the care required by perennials and herbaceous plants, as a rule.

Now it frequently occurs that we who have little time to care for flowers, have correspondingly limited means with which to buy. If I had no flowers whatever and but a dollar to expend in them, I think I should get an oleander—the old pink variety, an Otaheite orange, a Star of '91 canna and a packet of Oriental poppy seed; first, because each is a gem; second, with these I could have flowers the year round; third, because they are plants which

not every one else has, and would therefore possess the added charm of novelty.

The first grows larger and finer with age, the second blooms mostly in winter, when the oleander may be in the cellar resting. The canna will give its abundant bloom while the others are coming to perfection. If we house-wives are to grow our perennials from seed, it is better to get one or two kinds at a time, adding others as these become established, and the Oriental poppy is so beautiful and so rarely seen I should want a bed of this first.

Fortunate, indeed, is the woman who possesses a bay window in her dining-room; this room, to my mind, is the ideal spot for flowers in the house, as here they may be enjoyed by all the members of the family as they come together at meal-time; here, also, their ordinary wants are attended to by the house-wife as she goes about her work. If there is not a bay window or even a double window, a number may be grown in an ordinary single one, using a small table, a shelf on iron brackets across the window, the pot-brackets with extension arms, or all three, though overcrowding must be avoided to obtain best effects.

LILLIE SHELDON.

LILIES VERSUS ROSES.

I SUPPOSE that for one person that cultivates lilies 500 cultivate roses. In all summer horticultural shows roses occupy the first place, but lilies take a back seat. There are special rose exhibitions and a National Rose Society; the modest lily hangs its head in obscurity. Why is this? Is the lily inferior to the rose? I think not. For purity of color no rose can touch the lily; for fragrance, in my opinion (a matter of individual taste), no rose can equal in delicacy the perfume of the speciosum or longiflorum group, including *L. Browni*, or in strength that of *L. auratum*. For lasting as a cut bloom, whether as regards color or fragrance, the lily will keep good during a week; the rose is gone in 24 hours. Under glass one may have lilies all the year round in bloom; not so roses. For grace and stateliness, granted equal excellence of growth and cultivation to both, there is no comparison between any rose bush and *L. auratum*, *longiflorum* or *speciosum*. Whence, then, the difference in popular cultivation? I suppose that the lily is generally held to be far more difficult to grow than the rose; that after flowering the bulb often perishes, that renewals are costly and troublesome; but surely this is because the cultivation of the one is less understood than that of the other. A deciduous bush renews yearly only shoots and flowers; the lily, in addition, has to make a bulb, on the size and soundness of which its future life depends; hence a greater demand that its environment should be suitable and its requirements understood by the cultivator.

Now, as regards environments. It is true many soils do not suit lilies; they require moisture and a fair amount of sunshine; light sandy soils therefore do not suit, neither do heavy cold clays. Given fairly open retentive soil, lilies will do well. If you wish to see them well grown, go to Kew and admire the beds there. Now this environment is more restricted than that required by the rose, and it cannot be found in many gardens, but it can be had artificially. In my town garden of 20 feet by 50 feet I grow in pots magnificent groups of longi-

florum, speciosum and other lilies; but I take care that the pots are large enough, and never use less than a 10-inch pot for a single bulb. Large bulbs or several bulbs together require a pot up to 15 or 18 inches wide. The soil I use is a fibrous loam with some sand and peat to keep it open, and the plants get sunshine about half the day. They are kept well watered, this being most important. If not plunged they get soaked every evening at sunset; if plunged, every other day; during growth some fertilizer is also added. I have magnificent growth, splendidly colored, and fine blooms, and grand bulbs for the next year, and this is a town garden. If one can do this so easily, why not others? A grand pot of *L. longiflorum* or *speciosum* in flower is a graceful, beautiful sight, well worth a little trouble. Green fly does not infest my lilies like it does my roses, and no caterpillar eats the buds.

I finish, therefore, by again asking, if roses why not also lilies? I could add much more in favor of lilies, but one point more should be mentioned. A lily coming in flower in the open garden may be taken up with care for its roots, potted, and well watered; it will bloom and complete growth without injury. I never heard of a rose bush treated thus successfully; but I have been often asked incredulously, "Can these lilies really be grown out of doors?" —ALEXANDER WALLACE, M. D., in *Journal of Horticulture*.

FLOWER FESTIVAL.

A FLOWER festival, something like that of Nice, France, has become an established institution at Santa Barbara, California. This festival appears to have grown up naturally out of the exhibitions of flowers which have been held from time to time. The announcement of the festival this year makes the following statement:

"Two years ago, on the occasion of the visit of President Harrison, a festival similar to that held annually at Nice was inaugurated. The success of this festival was so great that it was determined to make it a yearly feature of the attractions of Santa Barbara. Last year the second one was held. The flattering notices which appeared in many newspapers have spread the fame of this festival all over the land. The profusion of flowers was overwhelming. Ten thousand fine roses were used in decorating a single vehicle. The long procession of carriages hidden beneath masses of flowers and filled with beautiful ladies in appropriate and tasteful costumes, made a scene never to be forgotten. The festival closed with a ball which was opened with the Dance of the Flowers. Twenty-eight beautiful damsels, each personating a favorite flower, entered in sets of four. With a gentle, swaying motion to soft music they went through the graceful evolutions of the dance; and advancing to the platform, where were seated the invited guests, they laid at their feet garlands and wreaths—Santa Barbara's offering of flowers.

"To better organize this yearly festival a corporation has been formed called the Flower Festival Association of Santa Barbara. Money making is not the object of this corporation. All its receipts, whether from subscription or from the sale of tickets or otherwise, are to be used in making the display more complete and adding to the attractions of the festival. Its sole purpose is to develop a love for the beautiful. Prizes will be given for the most artistic and best decorations, and by every means in its power this Association will endeavor to make the flower festival of Santa Barbara equal to any in the world."

The festival will begin on the 14th of April and last for four days, closing with a ball. The aim will be to make the festival of the present season surpass in attractions the one of last year.

TUBEROUS BEGONIAS.

IN the November number of the Magazine I noticed a request that anyone having experience with bedding out tuberous-rooted begonias would confer a favor, perhaps, to the public by telling the story. A two months' interdict on the use of my eyes has prevented telling my story before. Traveling in Europe in '88 and '89 I was charmed with the borders and beds of begonias there, and on my return in the fall I bought at Antwerp six bulbs which when I took them out of my trunk looked hopelessly dried up. I laid them on top of the soil in a large pot where a passion vine was just beginning to need a little water to start its growth; moss was laid lightly over them and I waited. At the end of three or four weeks the tubers filled out and showed signs of growth, when I put each into a five-inch pot and set them in the cellar window. They started vigorously, and by the time the season was far enough along to be trusted, late April or early May, there were vigorous plants four or five inches tall, ready to set out. Rather proud of my new pets, and hoping they would justify the feeling, I set them out in front of my piazza where they had a north-east exposure with a little sun only in the morning. They spread out their glossy leaves approvingly and soon sent up blossom stems and opened their flowers, which were from one and one-half to two inches across, of various shades of red. And until frost came they were beautiful! Desiring to get other colors I procured four tubers the next spring; one was a fine creamy white, but the others did not prove to be fine. But with a background of the taller growing varieties, with clusters of pink, white and red bloom, I had a very showy bed which had many admirers. Last season the plants were started as before in the cellar window but last summer we had heavy and almost daily rains after the plants were set out, and I feared I should lose them all; two or three of them died, but when the rains were over the rest all did their best to make up for lost time and when the frost came they were a blaze of beauty. So I shall have more this year and hope for continued success.

A. M. C. B.

Toledo, Ohio.

THE GLADIOLUS.

OUR gardens in late summer and early autumn possess no more satisfactory flowering plants than the numerous varieties of gladiolus. Both as showy plants in the borders and as cut flowers they are equally desirable. As cut flowers for room and table decoration, for ornamenting churches, lecture and concert rooms and halls for public meetings, there is nothing superior to the tall showy spikes of this flower of many colors. For these reasons the gladiolus bulbs should always be a prominent occupants of the summer garden, and the bulbs or corms should be planted in considerable quantities. Fortunately this can be done at no great expense, for the bulbs multiply very surely though not rapidly. But they are propagated freely from seed, and though this process takes some time it does not make such bulbs very expensive. The seedling bulbs vary endlessly in color, but less so in other respects. Certain strong and brilliant colors and others which will contrast with them are always desirable in making a collection of cut flowers, and on this account it is always best to raise a number of known, named varieties, and also a larger quantity of unnamed sorts to supply the flowers in volume.

Now among the named varieties some of the best are some of the oldest and cheapest kinds, among which may be named that old stand-by Brencleyensis, vermilion scarlet; and Lord Byron, brilliant scarlet, streaked with white; Christopher Columbus, rosy carmine with a red blotch on the lower petals; Charlotte Cushman,

brilliant scarlet with a white throat and a white line in each petal; Chateaubriand, cherry rose streaked with carmine; Eldorado, pure yellow with slight purple stripes; Eva, white tinged with rose and pale lilac; Ambroise Verschaffelt, carmine, garnet flamed; Phœbus, fiery red with large, showy, white blotch; Romulus, brilliant dark red with large white blotch; Flamingo, fiery red, with a rich purple blotch, a very brilliant and showy variety; Ida, a large white flower with a rose tint and blazed with carmine; Isaac Buchanan, a fine yellow; Murillo, cherry rose on light ground, with a white blotch and a white line in each petal; Matador, brilliant carmine striped and blotched with pure white;

that it is not the individual flowers but the spikes which count in this use of them. A fairly good garden soil suits the bulbs and each one produces from one to three new bulbs for the next season's planting. The proper time to plant is when the soil has become warm, and corn planting time may be considered as the most appropriate season. There is no use planting when the soil is cold as they will not start to grow then and they may rot; but it is best to put them in early when the favorable time comes, so that they may have the full season for the new bulbs to grow and ripen. A little hoeing and keep-



Flamboyant, fiery scarlet, a handsome spike; Edwin Booth, rose striped and flamed with brilliant scarlet, and a garnet stripe in the throat; Angele, white, lightly striped with lilac. Here are eighteen beautiful and low-priced varieties which might serve as standards and could be counted to form certain color effects. Some other named varieties might be as acceptable to some persons, but the above cannot fail to please. But beyond any selection of named varieties one may profitably raise a large quantity of unnamed ones to make up in quantity, for it will be found that great use can be made of the spikes of flowers; in cutting the whole spike is taken off so

ing clean is all the attention the plants require, except that it is best to set a straight little stick near each one and tie it to it when it begins to push up the flower spike, as the winds and rains may break them if unsupported.

When the first frosts come the tops can be cut off and the bulbs lifted and laid in the shade in an airy place for a time to dry off somewhat and then they are ready to be stored in dry sand in some frost-proof place, for the winter. If one has the fancy and the purse many beautiful high-priced varieties stand ready to his hand, and there is a chance for collecting in this line which may cause many envious glances.

RAISING SWEET PEAS.



OF that lady who cannot succeed in growing sweet peas I would ask, would you like to try it again this year? Now, notice the points. Surely nothing is easier than sowing peas. But your vines either turn yellow and die down, or else they run to rank vines with no blossoms. What freaky things they must be, to be

sure! Sometimes they seem like an obstinate example in algebra that we are sure the book is wrong on. Don't give up, but listen a moment. In the first place you want them to grow, and then you want them to do something besides grow. Here is a flower seed as big as a BB shot. It requires no such pains as the fine seed of some annuals. They do not have to wait till the ground can be finely pulverized, nor till all danger of frost is past. They will bear freezing almost like a weed. And yet just when you get your expectation roused they turn and disappoint you.

What is the first rule in growing sweet peas, and why? Early planting. It is something more than impatience to begin gardening that makes a lover of this beautiful flower welcome that warm wave of spring weather that comes along the last of March, and starts him out with his ounce of sweet peas to get them into the ground. Perhaps he doesn't know that the market gardener is out sowing a bushel of extra early culinary peas. But he knows there is some connection between early planting and an abundance of blossoms. Now all pea vines are naturally strong growers. The sweet pea certainly is. And to do well it must have good feeding. But here is just the danger. It has such a strong habit of growth that, if you give it the soil it needs, and then wait till May before you plant, it will germinate quickly and feed rapidly, and get such a headway of rank growth that it can't stop to bud. Plant a month or six weeks earlier and see. It germinates at a low temperature. It makes a good root growth before it shoots up. The plant grows slowly for a time, but gets a sort of self control for duty. Those early spring weeks are a discipline to this naturally rank grower, and it doesn't get ahead of itself. It is an impatient vine, and those early spring weeks are just what save it from the vice of weed-like growth, and hold it in restraint for the duty of blossoming. Of course the month of May is sometimes a cold, backward month. In that case some late planter of sweet peas may succeed, though he neglects the rule of early planting.

But here is a greater danger. I know of no plant that a little fermenting manure will burn more easily than this flower. People think about their gardens when it is time to plant. They spade in manure and plant directly. If they hoe out a furrow for sweet peas and put the seed down five inches deep, when that manured soil is filled in it comes in contact with five inches of the tender stalk of the vine. When the heat and moisture of June come the

mischief is done. Your vines have got up a foot or two, but they turn yellow. Pull one up, and see how the tender bark has been burnt off, and into the stalk itself, till it is connected with the root by a mere dry thread. Florists know what well rotted manure is, but few amateurs have any idea of the unnatural heat there is in the kind of manure they generally use. If you must use half rotted manure, put it at the bottom of a trench, and cover it with soil two or three inches in thickness.

And here a word for those who err at the other extreme. Sweet peas must be planted five inches deep to go through our trying July and August. But it's of no use to put them down there unless there are six or seven inches of good feeding below that. Our sisters who scratch the surface of their flower beds and stick in seeds sometimes put sweet peas in with the rest. A five cent paper gives them a few straggling vines, and by September they manage to have rambed over a few discouraged sticks, and they blossom enough to say so. Have you a vegetable garden? Then make a vegetable of your sweet peas. Put them in ground deep enough for parsnips, and rich enough for potatoes, and make a thrifty hedge of them six feet high. Every vine should have a score of branches, and every branch a score of flower stems, and even that would be but half a crop. You have never had nor seen sweet peas unless you have had or seen a hedge of six feet of thrifty green, and covered with such a mass of color that it seems literally like a sheet of flame.

Besides these points of early and deep planting, and putting the fertilizer where it cannot burn them, the other rules are simple, such as, covering the seed only an inch at first, and filling in after the vines are up; looking sharp for cut worms; bushing or trellising them strongly; running the row north and south; watering or mulching them; keeping the pods picked off, etc. An ounce makes a double row from twenty to twenty-four feet long. Get the best mixture and enjoy them.

W. T. HUTCHINS.

THE SWEET PEA.

THE sweet pea is eminently the flower of the masses, being so hardy, it will thrive under almost any conditions of soil, and its fragrance is always acceptable, and any time within our memory no garden however humble was thought complete without the sweet pea, but then it was "only a sweet pea," now in its improved form, four times the size of the original type, of exquisite shape, equal to the standard demanded in the most advanced "florist flower," with infinite variety of the most glowing, indescribably beautiful colors, it has become an absolute necessity in every garden, from the palace to the cottage, the admired of all admirers. The sweet pea appeared to have been looked upon as having come into this country in its final stage; "certainly any attempts that had been made to improve it being attended with very slight results."

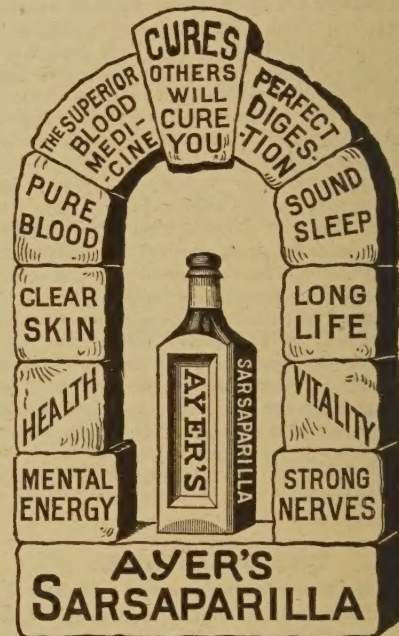
About eighteen years ago, being engaged in the improvement of the culinary pea, I resolved to take up the sweet pea also, and with such as I could collect, some half dozen varieties, I embarked in the work, which although progress at first was slow, "was very interesting," and I was encouraged by evidence of slight changes of character. In the fourth or fifth generation a dark variety which was named "Bronze Prince," and received the certificate of the Royal Horticultural Society, was the result; this was a clear advance in size and shape upon the old types. Two years afterwards I was rewarded by "Orange Prince," a lovely flower and one which is universally admired; this also was awarded the Royal Horticultural Society's certificate and should be in every collection. Then followed "Apple Blossom," succeeded by "Splendour."

Now it will be seen that I was in possession

of material to work upon, and with careful hybridizing and indomitable determination in selecting only decided advances, and discarding everything that did not possess some coveted property, the grand varieties "Mrs. Sankey," a white flower of the finest quality bearing black seed clearly showing the effects of cross fertilization, "Mrs. Eckford," "Countess of Radnor," "Emily Eckford," and several others which are being distributed this season, and many which have been put into commerce in previous years, have resulted, and the sweet pea of 1893 takes rank amongst the most advanced florist flowers, and in my humble opinion it stands unrivaled for usefulness "for indoor decoration," for which it is eminently fitted by its fine, long, stout flower stems, infinite variety of color, delightful fragrance and the long duration of its blooming season, which may be made, by a little management, "i. e. successional sowings," to cover between four and five months, and which also constitutes it one of the most valuable garden annuals. Any lover of sweet peas will always find a welcome at Wem.

HENRY ECKFORD.

Wem, Shropshire, England.



S. P. SMITH, of Towanda, Pa., whose constitution was completely broken down, is cured by Ayer's Sarsaparilla. He writes:

"For eight years, I was, most of the time, a great sufferer from constipation, kidney trouble, and indigestion, so that my constitution seemed to be completely broken down. I was induced to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and took nearly seven bottles, with such excellent results that my stomach, bowels, and kidneys are in perfect condition, and, in all their functions, as regular as clock-work. At the time I began taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla, my weight was only 129 pounds; I now can brag of 159 pounds, and was never in so good health. If you could see me before and after using, you would want me for a traveling advertisement. I believe this preparation of Sarsaparilla to be the best in the market to-day." *

Ayer's Sarsaparilla

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass.

Cures others, will cure you

NOTES OF SPRINGTIME.

From the brooklet, from the rushes
Come the merry song of turtles;
Hark, in tuneful songs the thrushes
Join the chorus, from the myrtles.
There they're cooing, there they're billing,
Each in notes most sweet and ringing.
Say not 'tis the turtle's wailing
Of the sorrows that are nearing;
Say, instead, that new life's creeping
In the veins of all that's sleeping.
"Winter's past and Springtime's coming,"
Is the news the bees are humming;
And the birds are clearly singing,
"What you've longed for Spring is bringing."
KEZIAH SHELTON.

MARGARET CARNATIONS.

THESE beautiful flowers have in my opinion fully merited the high encomiums bestowed upon them when first put in commerce. Various opinions have from time to time been expressed, and, as might be supposed, their good qualities do not seem to fully satisfy all classes of cultivators, for it is scarcely possible that any race of plants, however good, will achieve that distinction when individual tastes, inclinations and desires differ so much. I thoroughly believe, however, that an increasing number will ere long find out their great value, and will welcome them as a grand addition to late summer and autumn flowering plants. It is during that period that their usefulness is especially apparent. The ease with which they are grown, the comparatively short time which elapses from the sowing of the seed to the flowering stage, and the many beautiful shades of color to be found in the flowers, combined with the good qualities previously mentioned, will assuredly secure for them great popularity.

Last season I obtained a couple of packets of seed. The seed of one packet was sown about the middle of February, the other the first week in March, the latter sowing being made in a cold frame, and the former one in a pit, the temperature of which ranged upon 45° to 55°, in which position the plants were kept until growth was well advanced. The last week in April they were transferred to cold frames, and during the last week in May planted in mixed borders in the open air. From this sowing a few flowers opened in July, but flowering was not general till the middle of August, and continued to a limited extent till the end of October. The flowers seemed to withstand the vicissitudes of climate far better than many autumn-flowering plants, the heavy rains apparently having a less injurious effect upon them than upon Michaelmas daisies. At the end of October many plants had still numerous well formed buds upon them. The best plants then were carefully lifted, placed in 5 and 6-inch pots, and put in a house which was given no more heat than was necessary to exclude frost. Very few buds were lost through the check experienced when lifted. These plants now look healthy and well, the buds showing every sign of affording useful flowers at the advent of warmer and brighter days.

The plants resulting from the March sowing have been kept in pots, and have proved of the greatest value. They were stood in cool frames till the beginning of June, and then placed in an open position out of doors. Shortly after this date they were placed in pots ranging from 4 to 6 inches in diameter, in which they flowered, the compost used being two parts loam, one part manure from a spent mushroom bed, with a little sharp sand and soot added. A shady position was then given for a fortnight, during which time the plants were syringed freely twice daily. After this, they were again arranged thinly on a bed of coal ashes in the

open air, and received a thorough syringing during the afternoon of fine days. This syringing is an important item in their culture, as it keeps them quite free from the attacks of green fly, and forwards their growth wonderfully. These plants afforded a number of flowers during the autumn months, and they are again beginning to open their buds. I have no doubt flowers might have been obtained throughout the winter if the plants had been given more heat.

In regard to the form and substance of the flowers obtained I may say they have varied greatly, but only a very few quite single ones were produced; some were good full flowers, quite equal to many border carnations of acknowledged worth. The majority, though somewhat small, were of a sufficient size to be thoroughly useful for a variety of purposes in a cut state, and the flowers were so freely produced, and withal so deliciously scented, as to prove invaluable for room-embellishment when left upon the plants.

A great variety of colors were obtained, the pink and rose shades being especially good. One variety which I intend to propagate freely, has flowers of a more pleasing shade of color than the well known Raby Castle border carnation. I venture to predict that these carnations have a great future before them, for with little trouble they supply an abundance of beau-



MARGARET CARNATION.

tiful and scented flowers at times of the year when they are especially valued, and as a stock for the hybridist to work upon they possess advantages not to be found in any other race of allied plants.—H. DUNKIN, in *Journal of Horticulture*.

"Over a million cakes of Buttermilk Toilet Soap were sold last year."

TWO NEW WEEDS.

IN the Report of the Secretary of Agriculture for 1891 is a short account of two new pests for the tobacco growers and farmers. We are all fond of the pretty little reddish plant found growing in old woods on the roots of beech trees generally, and called Albany beech drops. It is a member of the broom-rape family. It never makes any trouble for any one, as it is a little home body, but the new broom-rape came over from England five years ago, and travels about the country quite rapidly. It fastens its little fibrous roots on the tobacco and hemp plants, and while drawing its life from them, slowly destroys them. It grows about one foot high, and with its dull yellow stalks and bracts, not leaves, and its light blue flowers, it is a very interesting little plant. The tube-like flowers are an inch in length and scattered up and down the branches. It is said to be very hard to get rid of, and the Secretary recommends frequent plowing and substitution of other crops in the infested hemp and tobacco fields.

The other weed to which the attention of farmers is called is one of the salt-wort family. It comes from Russia, and has been in the West about five years. The president of the Dakota Irrigation Company says that this formidable, thistle-like plant is driving the farmers from their land in South Dakota, where it originated or first made its appearance, near where was located a Russian settlement. It forms a large plant, several feet in diameter. As the plant grows its leaves become very sharp, and cut the legs of horses in harvesting and plowing. The plant grows in cultivated fields, in high, dry places, preferring wheat to corn, is never found in low, wet places, and seldom on the unbroken prairie. Its millions of seeds are scattered everywhere. As it is an annual, it seems as if it might be exterminated by careful cultivation of fields. It ought not to be allowed to mature seed, as it is a "tumble weed" in winter, and is carried by the winds a long distance. It likes railroads, and the more porous the soil the larger the plant.

When very young, cattle and sheep will eat the green shoots greedily, but as it grows older it is hard for them.

No one who has written about it has mentioned its blossoms. They are most likely inconspicuous, greenish, and very small, like the rest of the salt-worts. F. J. W. B.

If you think of buying an Incubator write for catalogue of the New Improved Victor advertised in our columns.

Unlike Unsoluble Cocoas,
which are Indigestible,
and Cocoas adulterated with Starch.

Van Houten's Cocoa
—(BEST & GOES FARTHEST)—

leaves no Sediment on the
bottom of the cup.

Letter Box.

In this department we will be pleased to answer any questions relating to Flowers, Vegetables and Plants, or to publish the experiences of our readers. JAMES VICK.

Begonia rubra.

I do not try to get bloom in winter from this plant. I keep it in a room where the temperature ranges from 40° to 70° in the twenty-four hours. It gets plenty of light, is watered moderately, and with this treatment it is growing nicely. In the summer I set it on the north side of the house and it does grandly.

Wayne, Iowa.

MRS. C. A. S.

Hyacinths after Blooming.

In answer to several inquiries we would say, that after blooming in the house all that hyacinth bulbs are suitable for is to plant in the garden, in the spring, and leave them there permanently to get what they will produce. They are not of any value for blooming again in pots.

Old Geranium Plants.

Ten years ago I planted a geranium seed, it germinated, and the plant grew and was given a place at the window in winter, and in summer it was planted out; it grew luxuriantly and bloomed in summer but when taken up in the fall all beauty vanished. Five years ago I did not plant it out in summer, and since that time it has not been out of its pot, and it has not been without flowers once during the last five years. I say keep the old plants.

Ravenna, O.

Miss C. E. S.

Begonias and Gloxinias.

Will you please inform me something about the treatment of the begonia and gloxinia, whether they need much water, sun, etc.; also tell me if you think the gas is injurious to house plants.

M. E. A.

These plants both require a good exposure to the light, and when growing a liberal supply of water. There is danger of overwatering when the plants are not making growth. Burning gas is an enemy to plant life, and in sufficient quantity will destroy them. Enough of it in the air of a room to injure plants would also be injurious to human beings.

Rose Caterpillar or Leaf Roller.

What is the most convenient way of preventing or destroying the tiny worm that eats rose leaves in June and ruins the looks of the bushes? I think it is light green in color, and generally found on the underside of the leaves.

W. F. H.

Jaffrey, N. H.

They can be destroyed by crushing them between the thumb and finger; or they can be in a great measure destroyed by dredging the leaves with white hellebore, or mixing it with water and sprinkling it on; or a solution of whale-oil soap will be almost sure to rid the plants of them. Kerosene emulsion is also effectual.

Amaryllis Johnsonii.

For the benefit of the readers of the Magazine I will give my experience with Amaryllis Johnsonii which I got when it was two years old. Early in April of the following year when it was in full leaf we moved to another residence and took it out of the pot and shook off part of the dirt, and then the next day repotted it, enriched it and watered it well; but there was no bloom that year, though it sent up another growth of leaves, making ten leaves in all. I put it in the cellar about the first of September and brought it up about the first of February, watering it moderately until in full leaf, when it sent up three flower stalks giving me twelve fine blooms. While blooming I kept it in a pan of water.

Wayne, Iowa.

MRS. C. A. S.

Pruning Wistaria.

A correspondent inquires about pruning the wistaria, stating that he has a plant of it which is now ten years old and has never bloomed, and adding that he has pruned it regularly every

year like a grape vine, that is cutting back the new growth every spring to two or three buds of the old wood. The trouble is it is pruned too much; and if he will let it alone, or what may be better yet, pinch in the ends of the growing shoots in June and July, so as to check the growth, the plant will come into bloom probably the following year. If not, the pinching of the green shoots should be continued another summer.

Begonias—Ivy-leaved Geraniums.

Will it do to pinch in begonias in order to have them branch and keep them shapely? All that I have asked about it say they think it would kill the begonias.

Will you also please say from what and how the ivy-leaved geranium originated?

Miss C. E. S.

Ravenna, O.

It is good practice to pinch in begonias, the same as other plants, in order to promote a shapely form.

The ivy-leaved geraniums are seedlings from Pelargonium peltatum, or of that variety hybridized with P. lateripes. They are the results of a long course of cultivation and cross-fertilizing and selection.

Mushrooms.

We have many and various inquiries about mushrooms and mushroom growing. One party wishes to know at what season of the year there is most sale for mushrooms. The answer is that there is a sale for them whenever they are produced. Of course, the most of the inquiries come from persons entirely ignorant of the conditions and process for raising mushrooms, and some of them evidently think that they have only to make the trial in raising this crop and their efforts will be crowned with success. It may be well to have it understood that raising mushrooms is quite an art, which can be acquired only after some practice, and only those who intend to take it up to learn with patience and earnestness should attempt it. The best treatise on this subject published in this country is "Mushrooms. How to Grow Them," by Wm. Falconer. Price \$1.50. If not to be had at nearest bookstore it can be procured by mail at this price. All who are seeking information on this subject should have this book for study and reference.

Carnation Cuttings.

In reply to M. P. in the February number I would say that the plants which M. P. supposes are the ones from which I take my cuttings in December. The cuttings which I made last December I shall grow through this season, carefully pinching and cutting back the flower stems until about the 1st of September. About October 1st the plants will be potted and shaded a few days and then brought into the house. From November to December flowering stems will commence to grow, and along these stems, out of the nodes or joints, small branches or shoots will push forth, and these, as I have already said, are very suitable for cuttings, that is the lower ones, the upper ones being too green, or young, for this purpose, but can be taken later, when they are a little more hardened.

G. F. M.

Hoboken, N. J.

The James Vick Strawberry.

In looking over my "Vick's catalogue" last spring I saw that the James Vick strawberry was no longer in the list of strawberries. I suppose it has not proved satisfactory in the East, but here, in Central California, it is the most productive strawberry raised and also the best keeper. In the spring of 1887 I planted five hundred plants of the James Vick; they had a few berries the first summer. The second summer I sold sixty dollars worth of berries; they bore all summer and fall, and I could get a few berries all through the winter. Our winters are not very cold here, sometimes seven degrees below freezing. I set some

small plants in a bed in the winter and they bore profusely the next summer. I counted one hundred buds, blossoms and berries on a single plant; and the next summer two hundred and fifty on one plant at one time. Although bearing so many berries they are not small, they are large, but not the largest, are highly flavored, firm, an excellent berry to ship, and will keep longer on the vines after ripening, and bear more wet weather without injury than any other strawberry I have ever raised. I have tried the Wilson's Albany, Russell's Prolific, Agriculturist, Sharpless, Crescent Seedling, Prince of Berries, First Crop, Jessie, Mammoth, and several other varieties of which I have forgotten the names, but none have proved so satisfactory as the James Vick. This variety has proved itself to be a true ever-bearing strawberry in the Pacific States. What they are in the East I can not tell, I never cultivated them until I came to California.

Mrs. J. A. E.

Tulare, Cal.

Bulbs in the House.

Last fall I sent for the "Bulb Collection B," offered in the September number of Vick's Magazine. They were received in good condition and were the largest bulbs I ever saw. I showed them to some of my neighbors, who had purchased bulbs of other firms, they decided that the bulbs were "the largest they had ever seen." The bulbs were all put into pots, part of them on the eighteenth of October, the rest of them on November sixth. The Paper White narcissus was the first to blossom, it came up in two weeks and sent its roots through the bottom of the crock in about four weeks. It grew forty-one inches high and blossomed at Christmas time; there were eleven flowers on one stalk. The next to blossom was the Jonquil Campenells, it had two sweet yellow flowers. Three of the hyacinths are in bloom now; Charles Dickens is fourteen inches high and just as full of blossoms as can be. The Yellow Prince tulip is in blossom. The rest of the tulips are budded. The Easter lily is fifty-seven inches tall, and there are three buds just making their appearance. I never saw an Easter lily and I wonder if it is usual for them to grow so tall.

Mrs. J. L. B.

North Ridge, N. Y.

PRIZE PUZZLE.—Here is another good answer to our Prize Puzzle.

As **V** is five, and **I** is one,

And **C** is ten times ten,

For eyes that's **K**een 'tis naught but fun

To spell the name of men

Whose love for plants, for fruits and flowers,

Is known the wide world o'er

For in this broad fair land of ours

From East to Western shore,

From North to South, on hill and dale,

VICK is a household word!

Their seeds and plants and bulbs ne'er fail

Rich harvest to afford.

A Ruddy Glow

on cheek
and brow
is evidence
that the
body is



getting proper nourishment. When this glow of health is absent assimilation is wrong, and health is letting down.

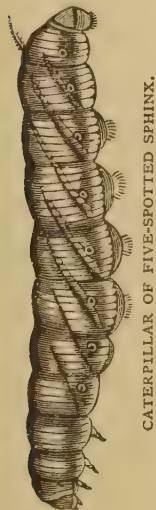
Scott's Emulsion

taken immediately arrests waste, regardless of the cause. Consumption must yield to treatment that stops waste and builds flesh anew. Almost as palatable as milk.

Prepared by Scott & Bowne, N. Y. All druggists.

MEALY BUG.

Of all the pests that torment plants, I really think mealy bug is the worst, and I am thankful my acquaintance with it is limited. I never saw one until last winter, and I was at a loss to determine what it was, for a time, but the wholesale wreck it made of plants led me to think it must be this much dreaded pest of greenhouses. The first plants I noticed it on were some very fine coleus. Now as these plants had always been singularly free from insect pests of any kind, I was at first dumbfounded. But the leaves kept dropping. I found the cottony looking things at work at the axils of the leaves. I soon found that if I did not get a remedy my plants would be ruined, and I thought when the coleus are gone there are other plants they will attack now that they have a foothold. I tried the hot water cure, as recommended by seedsmen. This was effectual in removing the pest, but alas! the poor plant went with it. I think upon some thick-leaved plants this would perhaps work to a charm, but the coleus leaves were too delicate and they succumbed. Then I thought of kerosene emulsion. I immediately prepared some with water and soft soap (I have no use for that with milk). Then I thought of white hellebore. I have never tried anything equal to that as an insect killer, so to the kerosene and soap* I added a heaping tablespoonful of hellebore, and taking the plants from the shelves I doused and drenched them with a sprayer, having the plant set in a tub. I was careful to touch the under side of the leaves, and at the axils. I did not get rid of them at one spraying, but I did the same thing three times. Then I thoroughly examined and washed every plant in the window in clear water to which soap was added, gave them a good rinsing, thoroughly washed the windows and woodwork, then put the plants in place, and I had no further trouble.



CATERPILLAR OF FIVE-SPOTTED SPHINX.



CHRYSALIS OF FIVE-SPOTTED SPHINX.

I can only account for the getting of these pests into the window in this way: The coleus had been grown as specimen plants for the fair. They were exhibited in September, and when they were brought home they were such beauties that I concluded to have them for winter plants. My theory is that they were brought home on the plants from the fair. But it taught me one lesson, which was to fumigate and thoroughly cleanse all plants that have been away visiting, before putting them into winter quarters. The remedy I applied is a most effective one, and I can recommend it.

Buffalo, Iowa.

HYACINTH.

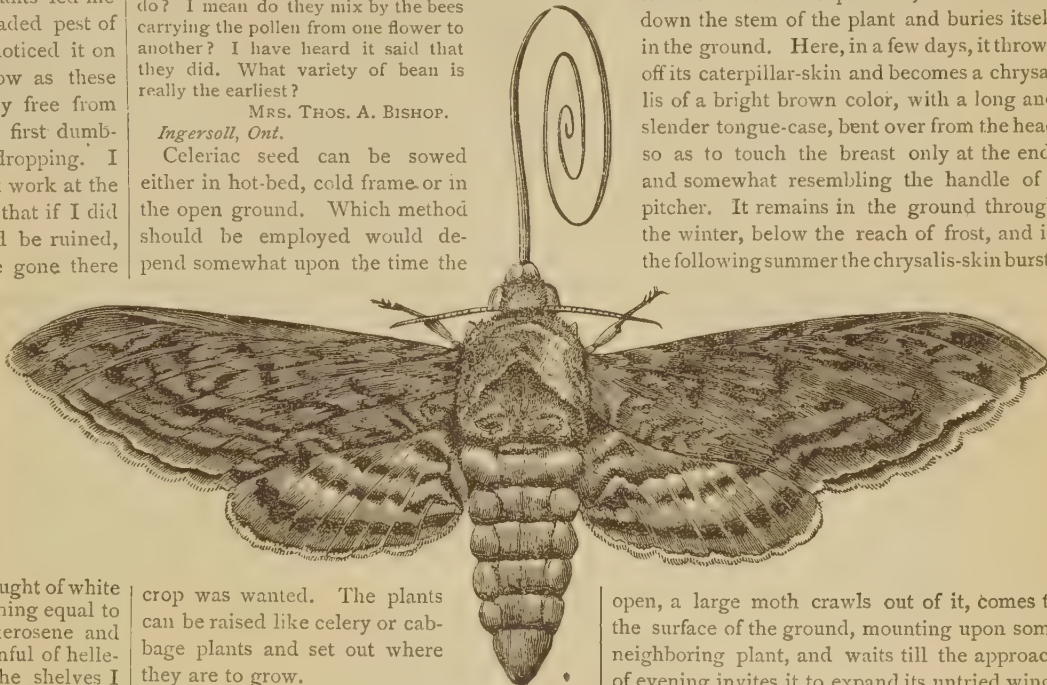
SOME QUERIES.

Will you please give directions for the culture of celeriac? When should seed be sown? Should it be started in the hot-bed or sowed out doors in April or May? Will you also please give us some information about the tomato worm? Do the worms turn into butterflies or moths? Please describe them. Do tomatoes mix the way cucumbers do? I mean do they mix by the bees carrying the pollen from one flower to another? I have heard it said that they did. What variety of bean is really the earliest?

Mrs. THOS. A. BISHOP.

Ingersoll, Ont.

Celeriac seed can be sowed either in hot-bed, cold frame or in the open ground. Which method should be employed would depend somewhat upon the time the



crop was wanted. The plants can be raised like celery or cabbage plants and set out where they are to grow.

The caterpillar or worm here inquired about is the larva of the Five-spotted Sphinx, *Sphinx quinquemaculatus*, a large moth that is pretty well known by sight, and those not knowing it by name may recognize it by the annexed engravings. It is described as measuring about five inches across the wings; the general color is gray, and this is marked and clouded by blackish lines and bands; on each side of its body there are five spots of orange color, and each surrounded with black. From this feature it bears its name. Dr. Harris, from whose "In-

sects Injurious to Vegetation" our illustrations were taken, says: "This insect, which devours the leaves of the potato, often to the great injury of the plant, grows to the thickness of the forefinger, and the length of three inches or more. It attains its full size from the middle of August

to the first of September, then crawls down the stem of the plant and buries itself in the ground. Here, in a few days, it throws off its caterpillar-skin and becomes a chrysalis of a bright brown color, with a long and slender tongue-case, bent over from the head so as to touch the breast only at the end, and somewhat resembling the handle of a pitcher. It remains in the ground through the winter, below the reach of frost, and in the following summer the chrysalis-skin bursts

open, a large moth crawls out of it, comes to the surface of the ground, mounting upon some neighboring plant, and waits till the approach of evening invites it to expand its untried wings and fly in search of food." While it is true that this caterpillar can do a great deal of mischief and damage, it is also true that it is so large that it can easily be seen, and so sluggish that there is no difficulty in taking it; and ordinarily the surest and most economical way to rid the garden of it is to take it by hand and destroy it.

In answer to the next question we will say that tomato plants are cross-fertilized by insects.

The Valentine is one of the earliest beans.

MADAM ROWLEY'S TOILET MASK

(OR FACE GLOVE.)

Trade-Mark Registered.



Is a natural beautifier for bleaching and preserving the skin and removing complexional imperfections.

It is soft and flexible in form, and can be easily applied and worn without discomfort or inconvenience.

It is recommended by eminent physicians and scientists as a substitute for injurious cosmetics.

COMPLEXION BLEMISHES may be hidden imperfectly by cosmetics and powders, but can only be removed permanently by the Toilet Mask. By its use every kind of spots, impurities, roughness, etc., vanishes from the skin, leaving it soft, clear, brilliant and beautiful. It is harmless, costs little, and saves many dollars uselessly expended for cosmetics, powders, lotions, etc. It prevents and removes wrinkles, and is both a complexion preserver and beautifier.

Illustrated Treatise, with full particulars, mailed free. Address, and kindly mention this magazine,

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To be Worn Three Times in the Week.

1164 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

1850 "DR. O. P. BROWN'S" 1893
PRECIOUS HERBAL OINTMENT | **CURED ME** | **OF ITCHING PILES**
 in a week."
 So says Henry Coles, 1717 Summit Ave., Scranton, Pa., Dec. 20, '92. Druggists or by mail 25 & 50c. J. Gibson Brown, 47 Grand St., Jersey City, N. J.
 When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.

THIS \$11 TO \$17
 SEWING MACHINE
 to examine in any
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 Warranted the BEST
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FREE!
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 sewing machine ever
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 us to-day. Address
 A. 51, Chicago, Ill.

* The addition of the hellebore was of no value in this case. The emulsion would have been as effective without it.—Ed.



ROCHESTER, N. Y., APRIL, 1893.

Entered in the Post Office at Rochester as "second-class" matter.

Vick's MONTHLY MAGAZINE is published at the following rates, either for old or new subscribers. These rates include postage:

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All contributions and subscriptions should be sent to Vick Publishing Co., at Rochester, N. Y.

ADVERTISING RATES.

\$1.25 per agate line per month; \$1.18 for 3 months, or 200 lines; \$1.12 for 6 months, or 400 lines; \$1.06 for 9 months, or 600 lines; \$1.00 for 1 year, or 1000 lines. One line extra charged for less than five.

All communications in regard to advertising to Vick Publishing Co., New York office, 38 Times Building, H. P. Hubbard, Manager.

Average monthly circulation **200,000.**

NITRATE OF SODA.

A correspondent inquires what would be a liberal and judicious use of nitrate of soda on strawberries. An answer to this question can indicate the amount to be used only somewhat indefinitely. Something depends on the character of the soil where the plants are growing. Nitrate of soda will call into action the potash and phosphoric acid in the soil and combine them in the crop. If it could be known how much potash and phosphoric acid is available in any particular soil, then a close calculation might be made of the amount of nitrate of soda to be used with greatest profit. As this cannot be known, then every application of the nitrate is in the nature of a trial, and after use for a time experience will be the guide for each individual. On ordinarily good soils it will be judicious for most garden and small fruit crops to use at the rate of 100 to 200 pounds per acre. This is about equal to an ounce to two or three square yards, apparently a small amount, and in order to distribute evenly it is well to mix it thoroughly with three or five times its bulk of sand or fine soil or moist sawdust. In applying it to strawberries, scatter it along the rows, using care not to have it fall on the leaves. There is no danger that it will not find its way into the soil. In using it on garden vegetables the ground can be hoed or cultivated after the application.

The following conclusions in regard to the use of nitrate of soda are taken from Sempers on Manures, a notice of which valuable manual appears on another page of this issue:

First. The nitrate of soda is, in most cases, a reliable manure for cereals, roots, and grasses, increasing the yield over other nitrogenous manures.

Second. Many crops grown with nitrate of soda mature from one to two weeks earlier than when grown with other nitrogenous manures.

Third. The best results are obtained by applying the nitrate to crops in fractional top dressings during the active stages of growth.

Fourth. Crops grown with nitrate of soda

generally have a higher feeding value than those grown with other forms of nitrogen.

Fifth. Crops grown with nitrate of soda seem to resist the attacks of parasitic organisms better than those grown without its aid.

Sixth. Nitrate of soda does not exhaust the land.

Particular notice should be taken of the third conclusion above, and use the nitrate during the early growth of the plants, dividing the amount to be supplied into two or three portions and applying it at different times about a week apart.

SWEET PEAS.

It is a pleasure to lay before our readers this month some notes from Mr. Henry Eckford, the most noted sweet pea grower in the world, the one who has done the most to improve these sweet and beautiful flowers and make their claims irresistible at the hands of all flower growers. In addition to the communication of Mr. Eckford we give also his Cultural Notes for Sweet Peas. To supplement and enrich the above instructions in regard to sweet peas we have also the pleasure of offering an article by a noted American sweet pea grower. The communication in this number entitled "Raising Sweet Peas," is by the most enthusiastic, and probably the most successful, cultivator of sweet peas in this country. Mr. Hutchins, whose home is at Indian Orchard, Massachusetts, near Springfield, has raised separately all the different varieties of sweet peas that could be secured in the market, and has, also, in process of development eight different strains of his own selection. His sweet pea garden for 1893 is already planned and, besides his own eight strains, will have some eighty varieties more, and also ten beds of mixed varieties.

Our readers may think themselves fortunate in securing the advice so freely given, and if followed they need not fear that the results will be all that they can desire.

CHINESE PRIMROSE.

In the November Magazine some one asks for reports of success with Chinese primroses, so I give mine. Seed was procured last April, and immediately sowed in a six-inch pot, filled to half an inch of the top with soil composed of one-quarter sand, one-quarter leaf mold, three-eighths heavy garden soil and one-eighth well rotted cow manure, mixed and sifted through a flour sieve, on top of broken crock for drainage. The pot was well soaked and drained before sowing, and just enough soil sifted over all to cover seeds, then all covered with paper and glass and set on the stovepipe shelf to keep warm. The seedlings began to come up in a week, and were taken to a south window, but kept from the sun, with the glass on the pot until the plants touched it. When the third or fourth leaves appeared, they were transplanted to a box of similar soil, sifted through sieve with a quarter inch mesh. All the plants grew and flourished until July, when they were put north of the house, where they soon were crowded. Then about half of them were potted, but rains kept them so wet that about half of all damped off. In September all the plants were taken up-stairs to a well-lighted, southeast room. Those in the box grew best, and began to bloom in December, the others not till late in January. So far it was a success. But when the first blossoms opened the plants were taken down into the sitting-room where all could enjoy them. It was much warmer there, and in a few days they ceased blooming. Examination showed the partly developed corollas, all dried up, and the later formed trusses all blackened. They were soon taken back up-stairs, but scarcely a dozen blossoms have opened since January 1st in the box. The plants which had remained up-stairs all the time are now blooming well.

Can you give the cause of the trouble in the warmer room, and tell if I may yet expect them to bloom? Also I would like to know if you can tell what ails

my callas. For five years they have bloomed, but now, with precisely the same treatment as usual, two have sent up buds that, when opened about an inch stopped, and in a week or so the spadix in each was found rotted, so they never opened further. It was very disappointing.

I am further requested by our "Ladies' Home Society" to convey to you our decision as to the "national flower," with the reasons therefor. Phlox; it is a native in various parts of the United States; it delights in our climate; stands dry weather admirably; is constant in bloom, early and late; submits to imposition, if necessary, but bravely stands up for itself if given half a chance; pays well for good treatment, constantly improves, and always shows a smiling face if given any foothold. What flower can better represent our nation?

Ottawa, Kas.

MARY E. LESTER.

This report of raising Chinese primroses is very encouraging, and shows those who have not tried raising these plants that they can certainly succeed if they will make the effort. There is no plant which will give so much bloom in the winter season as the Chinese primrose. The result of carrying some of the plants into the sitting-room shows how disastrous a dry atmosphere is to the plants. Although the cooler air of the unheated room upstairs suited the plants best, they would not probably have resented the change to the sitting-room so strongly, notwithstanding its higher temperature, if the air had been sufficiently humid. Water evaporating in the room would have overcome the difficulty. The plants were very likely so injured that no more is to be expected from them. It is always best to raise new plants of Chinese primrose every year. The old plants kept over never do much. We leave the question in regard to the callas open to any one who can, in a future number, give any light in regard to it. As to the phlox as a national flower, it is every way appropriate. All it lacks is the wish of the people to have it so. We do not suppose such an emblem is a necessity to the nation, and perhaps we shall never have one. We must bide our time.

WHITE PLUME CELERY.

I would like to disagree with the statement in Vick's Guide as to the keeping qualities of White Plume celery. I bought a package last year and did not notice that it was said to be a poor keeper until the seeds arrived. But I am not sorry that I ordered it, as it has proven with me to possess not only all the good qualities mentioned in the Guide, but is a good keeper as well. We are now, March 6, using White Plume celery in perfect condition, with fair prospects of keeping a month longer at least. It is crisp, tender, sweet, of excellent flavor, and suitable to embellish the table of a king.

G. G.

Kendall, N. Y.

How's This!

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Props. Toledo, O.

We the undersigned, have known F. J. Cheney for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions and financially able to carry out any obligation made by their firm. West & Truax, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, O. Walding, Kinnan & Marvin, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Price, 75c. per bottle. Sold by all Druggists. Testimonials free.

Sight-Seers at the World's Fair.

All contemplating a visit to The World's Fair should secure comfortable quarters in advance by advertising in *The Chicago Herald's* "World's Fair" columns, and thereby save themselves much annoyance and inconvenience upon reaching Chicago. The rate for such an advertisement in *The Herald* is fifteen cents per line of seven average words for each daily, and twenty cents for each Sunday insertion.

AN OAKVILLE MIRACLE.

THE REMARKABLE CASE OF MR. JOHN W. CONDOR.

A Helpless Cripple for Years—Treated by the Staff of the Toronto General Hospital and Discharged as Incurable—The Story of his Miraculous Recovery as Investigated by an Empire Reporter.

(Toronto Empire.)

For more than a year past the readers of the *Empire* have been given the particulars of some of the most remarkable cures of the 19th century, all, or nearly all of them, in cases hitherto held by the most advanced medical scientists to be incurable. The particulars of these cases were vouched for by such leading newspapers as *The Hamilton Spectator* and *Times*, *The Halifax Herald*, *Toronto Globe*, *Le Monde*, *Montreal*, *Detroit News*, *Albany*, *N. Y.*, *Journal*, *Albany Express* and others, whose reputation placed beyond question the statements made.

Recently rumors have been afloat of a remarkable case in the pretty little town of Oakville, of a young man recovering after years of helplessness and agony. The *Empire* determined to subject the case to the most rigid investigation, and accordingly detailed one of our best reporters to make a thorough and impartial investigation into the case. Acting upon these instructions our reporter went to Oakville, and called upon Mr. John W. Condor (who it was had so miraculously recovered) and had not long been in conversation with him when he was convinced that the statements made were not only true, but that "the half had not been told." The reporter found Mr. Condor at work in one of the heaviest departments of the Oakville Basket Factory, and was surprised, in the face of what he knew of this case, to be confronted by a strapping young fellow of good physique, ruddy countenance and buoyant bearing. This now rugged young man was he who had spent a great part of his days upon a sick-bed, suffering almost untold agony. When the *Empire* representative announced the purpose of his visit Mr. Condor cheerfully volunteered a statement of his case for the benefit of other sufferers. "I am," said Mr. Condor, "an Englishman by birth, and came to this country with my parents when nine years of age, and at that time was as rugged and healthy as any boy of my age. I am now 29 years of age, and it was when about 14 years old that the first twinges of inflammatory rheumatism came upon me, and during the fifteen years that intervened between that time and my recovery a few months ago, tongue can hardly tell how much I suffered. My trouble was brought on, I think, through too frequent bathing in the cold lake water. The joints of my body began to swell, the cords of my legs to tighten, and the muscles of my limbs to contract. I became a helpless cripple, confined to bed, and for three months did not leave my room. The doctor who was called in administered preparations of iodide of potassium and other remedies without any material beneficial effect. After some months of suffering I became strong enough to leave the bed but my limbs were stiffened and I was unfitted for any active vocation. I was then hampered more or less for the following nine years, when I was again forced to take to my bed. This attack was in 1886, and was a great deal more severe than the first. My feet, ankles, knees, legs, arms, shoulders, and in fact all parts of my frame were affected. My joints and muscles became badly swollen, and the disease even reached my head. My face swelled to a great size. I was unable to open my mouth, my jaws being fixed together. I, of course, could eat nothing. My teeth were pried apart and liquid food poured down my throat. I lost my voice, and could speak only in husky whispers. Really, I am unable to describe the state I was in during those long weary months. With my swollen limbs drawn by the tightening cords up to my emaciated body, and my whole frame twisted and contorted into indescribable shapes,

I was nothing more than a deformed skeleton. For three long weary months I was confined to bed, after which I was able to get up, but was a complete physical wreck, hobbling around on crutches a helpless cripple. My sufferings were continually intense, and frequently when I would be hobbling along the street I would be seized with a paroxysm of pain and would fall unconscious to the ground. During all this time I had the constant attendance of medical men, but their remedies were unavailing. All they could do was to try to build up my system by the use of tonics. In the fall of 1889 and spring of 1890 I again suffered intensely severe attacks, and at last my medical attendant, as a last resort, ordered me to the Toronto General Hospital. I entered the Hospital on June 20th, 1890, and remained there until September 20th of the same year. But, notwithstanding all the care and attention bestowed upon me while in this institution, no improvement was noticeable in my condition. After using almost every available remedy the hospital doctors—of whom there was about a dozen—came to the conclusion that my case was incurable, and I was sent away, with the understanding that I might remain an outside patient. Accordingly from September, 1890, to the end of January, 1891, I went to the hospital once a week for examination and treatment. At this stage I became suddenly worse, and once more gained admission to the hospital, where I lay in a miserable suffering condition for two months or more. In the spring of 1891 I returned to Oakville, and made an attempt to do something toward my own support. I was given light work in the basket factory, but had to be conveyed to and from my place of labor and carried from the rig to a table in the works on which I sat and performed my work. In August, 1891, I was again stricken down, and remained in an utterly helpless condition until January, 1892. At this time Mr. James, a local druggist, strongly urged me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. I was prejudiced against proprietary medicines as I had spent nearly all I possessed on numerous highly recommended so-called remedies. I had taken into my system large quantities of different family medicines. I had exhausted the list of liniments, but all in vain, and I was therefore reluctant to take Mr. James' advice. I, however, saw strong testimonials as to the value of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills as a blood builder and nerve tonic, and thinking that if I could only get my blood in better condition my general state of health might be improved, I resolved to give Pink Pills a trial. With the courage born of despair I bought a box, but there was no noticeable improvement, and I thought this was like the other remedies I had used. But urged on by friends I continued taking Pink Pills and after using seven boxes I was rewarded by noticing a decided change for the better. My appetite returned, my spirits began to rise and I had a little freer use of my muscles and limbs, the old troublesome swellings subsiding. I continued the remedy until I had used twenty-five boxes when I left off. By this time I had taken on considerable flesh, and weighed as much as 160 pounds. This was a gain of 60 pounds in a few weeks. My joints assumed their normal size, my muscles became firmer, and in fact I was a new man. By April I was able to go to work in the basket factory, and now I can work ten hours a day with any man. I often stay on duty overtime without feeling any bad effects. I play baseball in the evenings and can run bases with any of the boys. Why I feel like dancing for very joy at the relief from abject misery I suffered so long. Many a time I prayed for death to release me from my sufferings, but now that is all gone and I enjoy health as only he can who suffered agony for years. I have given you a brief outline of my sufferings, but from what I have told you can guess the depth of my gratitude for the great remedy which has restored me to health and strength.

Wishing to substantiate the truth of Mr. Condor's remarkable story the *Empire* representa-

tive called upon Mr. F. W. James, the Oakville druggist referred to above. Mr. James fully corroborated the statements of Mr. Condor. When the latter had first taken Dr. Williams' Pink Pills he was a mere skeleton—a wreck of humanity. The people of the town had long given him up for as good as dead, and would hardly believe the man's recovery until they saw him themselves. The fame of this cure is now spread throughout the section and the result is an enormous sale of Pink Pills. "I sell a-dozen-and-a-half boxes of Pink Pills every day," said Mr. James, "and this is remarkable in a town the size of Oakville. And better still they give perfect satisfaction." Mr. James recalled numerous instances of remarkable cures after other remedies had failed. Mr. John Robertson, who lives midway between Oakville and Milton, who had been troubled with asthma and bronchitis for about 15 years, has been cured by the use of Pink Pills, and this after physicians had told him there was no use doctoring further. Mr. Robertson says his appetite had failed completely, but after taking seven boxes of Pink Pills he was ready and waiting for each meal. He regards his case as a remarkable one. In fact Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are recognized as one of the greatest modern medicines—a perfect blood builder and nerve restorer—curing such diseases as rheumatism, neuralgia, partial paralysis, locomotor ataxia, St. Vitus' dance, nervous headache, nervous prostration and the tired feeling resulting therefrom, diseases depending upon humors in the blood, such as scrofula, chronic erysipelas, etc. Pink Pills restore pale and sallow complexions to the glow of health, and are a specific for all the troubles peculiar to the female sex, while in the case of men they effect a radical cure in all cases arising from mental worry, overwork or excesses of whatever nature.

The *Empire* reporter also called upon Mr. J. C. Ford, proprietor of the Oakville Basket Factory, in which Mr. Condor is employed. Mr. Ford said he knew of the pitiable condition Condor had been in for years, and he had thought he would never recover. The cure was evidently a thorough one, for Condor worked steadily at heavy labor in the mills and apparently stood it as well as the rest of the employes. Mr. Ford said he thought a great deal of the young man and was pleased at his wondrous deliverance from the grave and his restoration to vigorous health.

In order to still further verify the statements made by Mr. Condor in the above interview, the reporter on his return to Toronto examined the General Hospital records, and found therein the entries fully bearing out all Mr. Condor had said, thus leaving no doubt that his case is one of the most remarkable on record, and all the more remarkable because it had baffled the skill of the best physicians in Toronto.

These pills are manufactured by the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Schenectady, N. Y., and Brockville, Ont., and are sold in boxes (never in loose form by the dozen or hundred, and the public are cautioned against numerous imitations sold in this shape) at 50 cents a box, or six boxes for \$2.50, and may be had of all druggists or direct by mail from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company from either address. The price at which these pills are sold make a course of treatment comparatively inexpensive as compared with other remedies or medical treatment.

How She Saved Money.

TO THE EDITOR: Every woman ought to write to Wells, Richardson & Co., Burlington, Vt., for one of their free books on home dyeing. They also sent me forty cloth samples of different colors, so that I had no trouble in selecting the dyes I wanted. I could tell of many ways diamond dies have saved me money, but most of them are explained in this book.

MRS. J. E. SIMONDS.

A Great Offer

To Dyspeptic, Debilitated Men,
To Worn-Out, Nervous Women,
To Peevish and Sickly Children,
TO ALL CORPULENT PEOPLE,
whether Male or Female, Old
or Young.



A Free Package

of the **BEST MEDICINE** in the known
World will be sent prepaid to Every
Reader of This Paper who is **SICK or**
AILING. A Positive, Speedy and Per-
manent Cure for Constipation and All
Diseases arising from Impure Blood,
such as **DYSPEPSIA, LIVER COMPLAINT, BIL-**
IOUSNESS, RHEUMATISM, CORPULENCY, GOUT,
NERVOUS DEBILITY and CONSUMPTION.

INDIGESTION

THAT CURSE OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

from which CONSTIPATION and all other Physical
Miseries arise, is surely and speedily overcome
by the use of a Wonderful but Harmless Remedy.

Read Carefully and Act Promptly!!

CONSTIPATION DEFINED.

SOUND IDEAS AND FACTS.

EVERYBODY knows that food is required for the growth and preservation of our
bodies. Every day nature requires a supply of nourishment to support life;
and by the Digestive organs, the nutriment is extracted from the food we eat.
After the nutritive properties have been absorbed from the food it becomes foul,
offensive matter, requiring prompt excrement from the body. When the
bowels fail to promptly and properly carry off this disagreeable
and poisonous mass, it is called **CONSTIPATION.**

The celebrated Dr. WURTBURG, of Berlin, defines Constipation as follows:
"Constipation—Sluggish or incomplete action in evacuating the bowels; the inability of
the lower intestines to expel the alvine discharges; the putrid matter often remaining in the
bowels several days."—Wurzburg.

When this effete and poisonous matter remains in the system
it poisons and contaminates every organ with which it comes in
contact.

IT COMES IN CONTACT WITH

The Stomach, Liver, Heart, and all Vital Organs.

HOW DOES IT DO THIS? The blood becomes poisoned, and
in its circulation through our entire system, it carries the poison
from this foul, effete matter to every organ and tissue in the body.

It is from this cause that we have "Blood Disorders," which cause
Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Sick Headache, pains in all parts of the body, Running
Sores, Pimples, Boils, Carbuncles and all Skin Diseases. The blood, becoming thick
and overlarded with the poisonous impurities, is unable to supply the tissues with
proper nourishment, and consequently they become deranged and unhealthy; or the
blood becomes so clogged up that the impurities burst through the skin in the shape
of boils, pimples and skin diseases.

Liver Complaint, Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Loss of Appetite, Bad
Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Kidney and Bladder Diseases are all brought
about by the Digestive Apparatus being deranged by coming directly in contact
with the effete foul matter in the bowels. Even the lungs are affected by Constipa-
tion, causing Lung Trouble and Consumption.

Premature Old Age, Lack of Youthful Energy, Beauty and Vigor, Sallow Com-
plexion and Haggard, Careworn Look, are all due to this one baneful curse,
Constipation.

Quoting the words of Dr. HEINEMANN, we have the views of one of the greatest
authorities of the age on this question:

"It is Constipation (retention of feces), though often unsuspected, that steals from our
manners their freshness and beauty, taking away the lustre from their eyes and the glow from
their cheeks, causing the weakness peculiar to the female sex and giving them the haggard,
worn out look and diminished form when they should be in the best of health. It is Constipa-
tion, that is the plunderer which robs the manly strength and vigor from men, giving them the
fretful, ugly disposition and their listless ways and habits."

An extract from QUAIN'S DICTIONARY OF MEDICINE is as follows:

"Constipation is a prominent symptom in diseases of the stomach, of the liver, of the
heart, inducing congestion of the portal system and of the nervous system, as well as in connection
with diabetes, excessive perspiration, prolonged lactation and discharges."

The causes of Constipation are such as evidently induce one or both of the following con-
ditions: 1.—Dryness and hardness of the contents of the large intestine from deficient secretion,
or too active absorption of fluid from the intestinal tract. 2.—Impaired contraction of the mus-
cular fibres of the large intestine."

How can we rid ourselves of the bothersome Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Sour
Stomach; cure ourselves of Malaria, Liver Complaint, etc.; drive away the Rheu-
matic and Neuralgic Pains and Sick Headache; relieve ourselves of Pimples and all
Skin Eruptions and the Disagreeable Taste in the Mouth and Objectionable Breath?
How can we remove the Haggard Look, and bring back the beautifully tinted com-
plexion, and build up the wasting form; and how can we cleanse the blood of all its
impurities? Only by first removing the cause and continuing the use
of the remedy which will accomplish this.

EGYPTIAN REGULATOR TEA

is an absolute and permanent cure for Constipation and all Diseases arising
therefrom. It is not a purgative. It simply acts in a manner which assists nature
and aids to regulate the Liver and Bowels.

It is purely vegetable and contains no opiates or narcotics; but is merely a
mild, yet thorough agent in compelling the organs to perform their proper
functions. It acts upon the entire Digestive organs and Nutritive system, stimu-
lating the whole to complete and healthy action.

The importance of having the Digestive Organs and Nutritive System in a perfectly
healthy and easily working condition, as well as the organs of Circulation and Secretion, can-
not be over-estimated."—Foulcr.

To sum it up as concisely as possible, the properties of the simple combination of
roots, grasses and leaves which enter into the composition of this Tea are three-fold:
1st—To evacuate the faces and gases, which, distending the large intestine, thwart
peristaltic action. 2d—To tone the walls of the bowels and thus prevent re-accumulation
of feces and the products of their decomposition; to increase the flow of intestinal
mucus, and thus guard against further constipation. 3d—To thoroughly cleanse
every organ and tissue in the body and put them in a purely healthy condition.

Can all this be accomplished by one dose? No! This remedy does
not perform miracles. Can it be accomplished by a week's use? No, it
cannot. Can it be accomplished by one package of the Tea? Yes, it
can. One package contains enough Tea for eight weeks' use, which is ample time
for putting the system in condition to insure against further attacks of Constipa-
tion, and to eradicate all impurities.

CORPULENCY.

Although it is not generally so considered, obesity is a serious affliction. Not
only does it cause the sufferers to become more or less of a spectacle on the street
or in society, but what is far more serious, it is an affection which predisposes
the sufferer to Heart Troubles, Paralysis, Rheumatism, Gout, etc.,
and all Inflammatory Diseases. The reason for this is the fatty particles
are not healthy. The flesh which should be solid muscle and tissue is flabby, and
contains an immense amount of water. There is a lack of red blood corpuscles.
In fact obesity is a disease; and by curing yourself of this disease (Corpu-
lency) you are much less liable, in case of an epidemic, than before; and are also
insured against all inflammatory diseases.

Speaking with scientific precision, fat ought always to be called adipose tissue. We are
not to forget that when it chiefly collects in the cavity of the abdomen it frequently induces
headaches and indigestion, together with a sluggish condition of the mind—with apoplexy as a
final result. When it interpenetrates the bundles of muscular tissue composing the heart, you
have fatty degeneration of the heart. When in the same way it invades the epithelial tissue of
the liver, you have fatty degeneration of the liver. Attacking the brain, it sets up a diffused
sub-acute inflammation, sclerosis and degeneration of the cells. In fine, fat or adipose tissue is
essentially degenerative tissue."—Treatise—The Philosophy Of It.

Corpulency always ends in fatty degeneration. Danger attends a condition of
scant breath and being too easily tired. If a few hurried steps affect the breathing
of a stout person, if labor power decreases, and mind and body become steadily less
alert for business or pleasure, then Obesity is unsafe. Not only is it unsafe
but highly dangerous, to say nothing of the annoying discomforts which all fat
people must experience. For this disease alone EGYPTIAN REGULATOR
TEA is priceless, because by its use you can reduce your weight to a normal
standard without resorting to starvation diet.

Until comparatively few years ago the Formula from which EGYPTIAN
REGULATOR TEA is prepared was a secret carefully guarded by the Supreme
Powers of Egypt, although authentic records show that this valuable remedy had
been in use by the Royal Families of Egypt for more than two hundred years. All
the reader cares to know is that the formula was obtained by the late Prof. HUIR,
a member of the French Academy of Sciences, Paris, France, and by him
transferred to his son-in-law, a distinguished English Physician, now a resident of
New York, from whom it was obtained at great cost by the undersigned, who is pre-
pared to meet any demand and guarantee results which cannot be obtained by the use
of other medicines. It is indeed a wonderful remedy as thousands can testify.

This great medicine is simple, harmless, and beyond all question the Best
and Safest Remedial Agent in existence. It is literally worth its weight in
Gold to all sufferers from the diseases above named. One package, enough for
eight weeks' use, is generally sufficient to cure even very bad cases, making it the
most economical medicine in the world.

REMEMBER that EGYPTIAN REGU-
LATOR TEA will positively
and permanently cure you of Constipation, Liver
Complaint, Dyspepsia, Biliousness, Sick
Headache, Nervous Debility, Female Weak-
ness, Consumption, and also that most distressing,
uncomfortable and dangerous disease, **Corpu-
lency.** A trial will cost you nothing, while it costs us a large
sum of money to insert this advertisement; if the remedy
is not all we claim the loss is ours and not yours.

The Price of Egyptian Regulator Tea is \$1.00
per Package or \$1.12 when sent by mail, or Six
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Office Address. (This liberal offer enables you to test the
remedy without expense, and be your own judge of its
merits. We know beyond question that it will do you
more good than any medicine you ever used.) Ad-
dress, giving name and address.

EGYPTIAN DRUG CO.. 81 PARK ROW. NEW YORK CITY.

The Publishers of this paper are personally acquainted with the above named Company, and believe their
remedy to be all they claim for it. Our readers will do well to send for a Trial Package and decide for
themselves.

THE ROSE.

A new and revised edition of "The Rose," by the late Henry B. Ellwanger, has lately been issued by Dodd, Mead & Co., of New York. The present edition has been revised by George H. Ellwanger, who writes an introduction which is both pleasing and instructive. Among the practical points which it makes are naming some of the best of the new varieties of roses, and those best adapted for florists' use on a large scale. An appendix consists of an essay on "Old and New Roses," which appeared in the *Century Magazine* of July, 1883, and was contributed by the reviser. It is a careful review of the best varieties of roses and their special qualities and adaptations, with some hints on culture and protection. The principal work of revision is in the catalogue of varieties, which has been brought up to the present time, making it invaluable for reference on this subject.

This edition of "The Rose" is the most complete and valuable treatise on the "Queen of Flowers" that exists in the English language, and it is commended to all who wish to learn about their care and culture.

BOOK NOTICES.

THE ICE CROP.—This is the title of a practical little manual on the best methods of cutting and storing ice, by Theron L. Hiles, and published by the Orange Judd Co., of New York. The work is full, practical and reliable.

MANURES, HOW TO MAKE AND HOW TO USE THEM.—We take great pleasure in noticing this book and commending it to those of our readers who wish to know the latest applications of science to practice in the combinations of soil fertilizers, and the best methods of using manures, and their adaptability to certain crops. Every gardener and farmer should possess it and keep it for constant reference. The book is written by Frank W. Sempers of the Fordhook Chemical Laboratory, and published by W. Atlee Burpee & Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

ALL SEASON'S RADISH.

All Season's radish was a great success. It is of large size and good quality. At this date, March 7th, the radishes are still in good condition. They were kept in a box of dry soil in a cool cellar. C. L. S.

Montrose, Wis.

CROCUS IN THE HOUSE.

If Mrs. M. A. B., of New Douglas, Ill., page 55, Vick's Magazine, will get rid of the idea of forcing crocus bulbs she will not lack success. Leave in a cool cellar until started, then in a cool room until blossom buds appear, then in a room adjoining a warm room, and there will be no trouble about their blooming. They resent much forcing. M. M. L. Findlay, O.

THE luxurious and healthful Silk Underwear manufactured by Mr. Geo. S. Brown of 131 Tremont street, Boston, is a valuable discovery. It is known as "Silk Sponge Flannel"—is *unshrinkable* and all pure silk; is pliable and a very soft fabric 40 inches wide, which he sells for \$1 a yard, five yards being enough to make two undersuits. It has no equal for preventing colds and relieving rheumatic pains. There is nothing in the world more economical and useful for man, woman or child. Ladies combination suits cannot shrink when made of this silk by the Richards' pattern, which is included with purchases of five yards. Catalogue and sample four cents. We would advise our readers to write to Mr. Brown for full particulars.

HAWAII.—The Hawaiian Islands are the key to the North Pacific. If they fell into the hands of one of the great European powers we should be compelled to fortify our Pacific Coast and to maintain a naval force in that ocean at enormous expense. The mere fact of our firm possession of the Hawaiian group as an integral and inalienable part of our national territory, instead of making future international complications probable, is precisely what will tend to keep such complications at a minimum. We can protect our Pacific Ocean commerce, guard our Western coast line, and maintain our control of the prospective canal, at less than half the expense for fortifications and ships, if we hold Hawaii, that we should be compelled to incur without the islands in our possession. The article we print elsewhere in this issue well emphasizes the commercial and strategic importance of the one halting-place at the "cross-roads" of the Pacific. As a matter of military economy, we cannot afford to be without Hawaii.—From the "Progress of the World," March Review of Reviews.

Plants and Seeds.

The Good & Reese Co., Springfield, Ohio, publish a beautiful 144-page illustrated catalogue of plants and seeds, which they will send post-paid to our readers for ten cents in stamps.

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Without caustics, the knife, or arsenic; without mutilation of healthy tissue, an important matter in cancers of the face.

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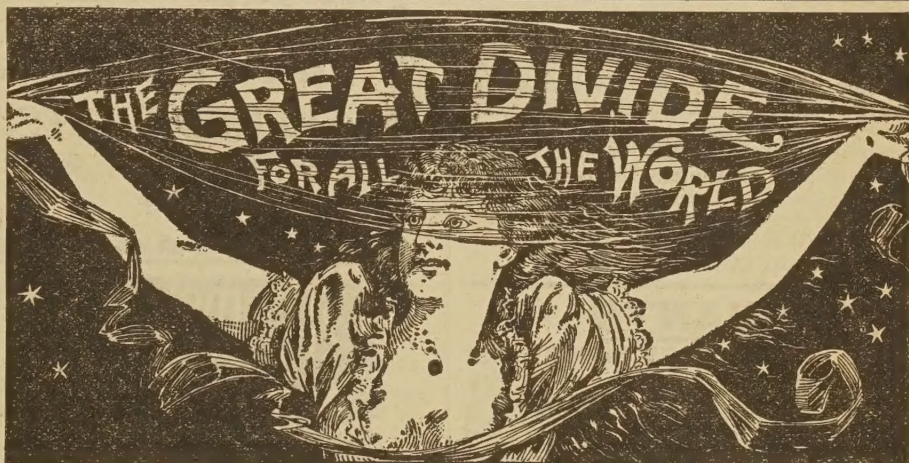
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J. D. MITCHELL, M. D., Hornellsville, N. Y.

FITS CURED

(From U. S. Journal of Medicine.)

Prof. W. H. Peeke, who makes a specialty of Epilepsy, has without doubt treated and cured more cases than any living Physician; his success is astonishing. We have heard of cases of 20 years' standing cured by him. He publishes a valuable work on this disease which he sends with a large bottle of his absolute cure, free to any sufferer who may send their P. O. and Express address. We advise anyone wishing a cure to address, Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F. D., 4 Cedar St., New York



I had a dream: I stood on the brink of a lake; it was inky black and bottomless. A mighty power born of this depth and blackness seized me and drew me slowly to itself. I cried aloud for help. I heard a voice say "Turn around." I turned and saw a light in the distance. And lo! the awful power that held me vanished.

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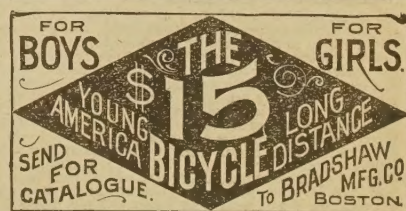
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A TINY GARDEN.

It was a bricked over space behind a house on a crowded street. My washwoman lived there, and on one of my calls her little girl said, "Please come and see my garden." No soil could be seen, and yet between the bricks a brave little dandelion had thrust up its head, and actually had a flower as pretty as if the plant grew in the midst of a grassy field. "I water it every day," said she, "and I can see lots of buds." "I can give something to this child," thought I, "better than money," and after praising the care she gave her flower, I asked if she would like a vegetable and flower garden too. Her face glowed, but clouded again as she asked, "How can I?" "Leave that to me," said I, "you shall see them next time I come." I had two wooden boxes about three feet long. Filling these with rich soil, in one was planted parsley seed and in the other nasturtiums. They both fitted into a sunny place by a brick wall. The child watered them faithfully and in due time with delight showed me the flowers of every hue. "I pick them for the table, and my vegetable garden gives us parsley, every day, fresh and nice to eat with bread and butter." So even a brick paved yard can grow something in boxes, nasturtiums and parsley are particularly fitted for them.

Consumption Surely Cured.

TO THE EDITOR—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy free to any one of your readers who have consumption if they will send me their express and post office address. Respectfully, T. A. Slocum, M.C., No. 181 Pearl Street, New York.

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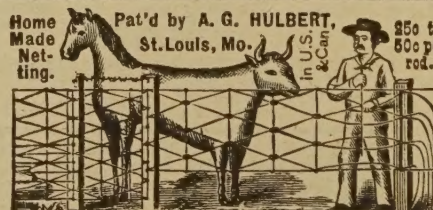
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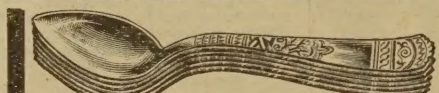
THE ROBINS.

A lady who has been a purchaser of Vick's seeds for many years writes a pleading letter in behalf of the robins. It is instigated by a paragraph which appeared in one of the pages of our November number taken from a report of the Ohio Experiment Station. We do not think there is a sentiment anywhere in the country which would countenance any great destruction of the robins, or in fact any of our native birds. The English sparrow is the only "Ishmaelite" among the feathered tribes. The robins, however, in some sections are very destructive to fruits, yet, withal, few persons would desire to do more than to drive them away. We think if our friend stood in the place of some fruit-growers she would more fully appreciate the inquiry, "Are ye not of more value than many sparrows (robins)?" and might seek peace of mind even though a few robins should "fall to the ground."

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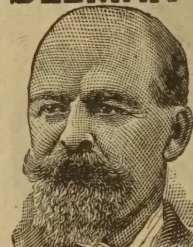
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